GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:324
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2006
SEPARATE AIRLINE FOR NE REGION
Subba Shri Moni Kumar

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

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(a)Whether the Government has any proposal under consideration to set up a separate regional airline for the North-Eastern region ;

(b) If so, the details thereof ;

(c) Whether the regional services are likely to be duly subsidized to cater to the North Eastern region; and

(d) If so, the manner and extent to which the subsidy is proposed to be funded ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a)to(d): The North Eastern Council (NEC) had commissioned a feasibility study by Foundation for Aviation and Sustainable Tourism (FAST) for improving air connectivity and starting a regional airlines for the North Eastern Region (NER). The report submitted by FAST has been examined by a Committee under the chairmanship of H.E. the Governor of Manipur. In its report submitted to the NEC on 31-10-2006, the committee has recommended

(i) setting up of a regional airline through public private parternship to operate in the NER or

(ii) provision of minimum subsidy to airlines through a Reverse Bidding Process to operate the required services in the NER. The proposal is under consideration of the NEC.